

Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina

EARLY ASSOCIATION HISTORY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 17, 2021

JIM KIRK, PAST PRESIDENT & FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER



Quotes from a Certain State Finance Office



‘This is the way we have always done it’

‘Anne is the only one who knows how to do this job’

‘The auditors will never notice’

‘We need new staff just to reconcile our systems’

‘But if we automate this, we won’t need Bill’s position’

‘No way we can close the year in time for the auditors’

HELP!

The Need for an Association and First Steps



- The idea of an association?
 - State agency finance officers – looking for help from each other and willing to share ideas with others
- In 1984, preliminary exploratory meetings at Water Resources Commission office – WRC Finance Director Chuck Fallaw host
- In early 1985, organizational meeting at the SCDHEC Auditorium with Comptroller General Earle Morris, State Auditor Ed Vaughn, and State Treasurer Grady Patterson present and supportive of creating an association
- In 1985, first official meeting at Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School Auditorium – elected first Board of Directors

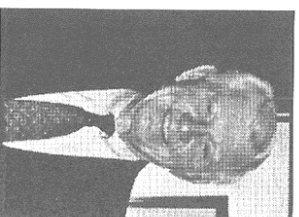


- Membership of first GFOASC Board included:
 - Chuck Fallaw, Water Resources
 - Jim Kirk, Disabilities and Special Needs
 - Betty Onley, State Library
 - Sam Griswold, Budget and Control Board
 - John Humphries, Parks, Recreation and Tourism
 - Yvonne Myrick-Crum, State Treasurer's Office
 - Wilma 'Bill' Bellamy, Real Estate Commission
 - Doug Hawkins, City of West Columbia

Note: Original name - South Carolina Association of Government Finance Officers



- **Initial actions taken by the Board included:**
- Recognized the contributions and support of Earle Morris, Grady Patterson and Ed Vaughn by making them Honorary Lifetime Members of GFOASC
- Entered agreement with State Personnel to assist the Association in scheduling and coordinating a fall conference (Bud Thurber, Martha Joye and Jan Latham)
- Began research to determine best approach for Certification Program for SC government finance officers



Grady Patterson



Earle Morris



Ed Vaughn

- **First Fall Conference – Off to a Grand (and wet) Start**



- Hilton – River Front on Lockwood Drive in Charleston
- 106 government finance officers registered and attended conference (our goal was 100 attendees)
- Tropical storm the final day of the conference
- Water in the parking lot over 6” deep
- A guest speaker had to remove his shoes and socks to enter the hotel
- Ceiling tiles fell during one of the sessions



Years 1 & 2 – 1985-1986 Highlights:

Chuck Fallaw 1st / 2nd President

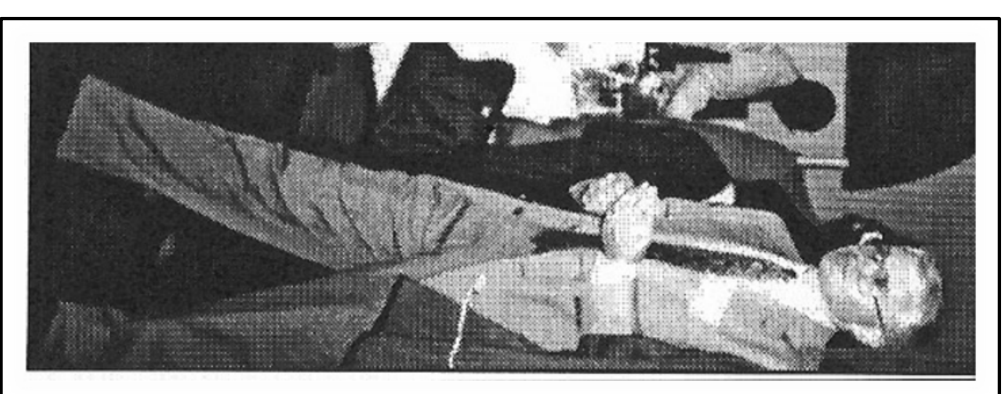
Obtained support for GFOASC from Grady Patterson, Ed Vaughn and Earle Morris

Concentrated on state government membership

Chuck established and served as Chairman of the Certification Committee

Negotiated contract with University of South Carolina to oversee Certification Program

Established partnership with State Personnel Training Division to assist with fall and spring conferences



Year 3 – 1987 Highlights



3rd Year President Jim Kirk, Disabilities & Special Needs

Annual conference – Seabrook Island

Cookout and DJ at Seabrook around the pool – the start of our PARTYING!

National GFOA President-Elect keynote conference speaker



Initiated monthly luncheon meetings

Initiated recruitment of local government finance officers



Initial work on certification program

Year 4 – 1988 Highlights

4th President Jimmy Simpson, B&C Board Administration

Conference at Myrtle Beach

Great membership growth

Improved financial condition of association

Changed dues structure and registration fees

Major effort to involve private sector to support association

- Deborah Nye leadership in recruiting conference sponsors – continued for 30 years!



Year 5 – 1989 Highlights



5th President John Wood, USC Controller – first higher ed president

Myrtle Beach conference

Strong effort to recruit college & university staff

Fee structure changed to add agency memberships

Further improvement of financial condition

Final work on certification program!

Scholarship programs planned



Year 6 – 1990 Highlights



6th President Kay Riley, Budget and Control Board Administration

Conference at Hilton Head

First Certified Government Finance Officer certificates awarded at conference!

- 13 initial CGFO awards presented by Ed Vaughn
- #1 CGFO for highest score on exams – Rebecca Coleman, Town of Dillon finance officer (later President of GFOASC)

Name change: to Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina (GFOASC)



Year 7 – 1991 Highlights



7th President Paul Jarvis, State Treasurer's Office

Paul led automation of membership records

Scholarship programs officially initiated, funded, and awarded at conference; named after deceased members:

- Wilma ("Bill") Bellamy, Real Estate Commission
- Katherine ("Kay") Zook, Central Midlands Council of Governments

Continued large membership growth



Year 8 – 1992 Highlights



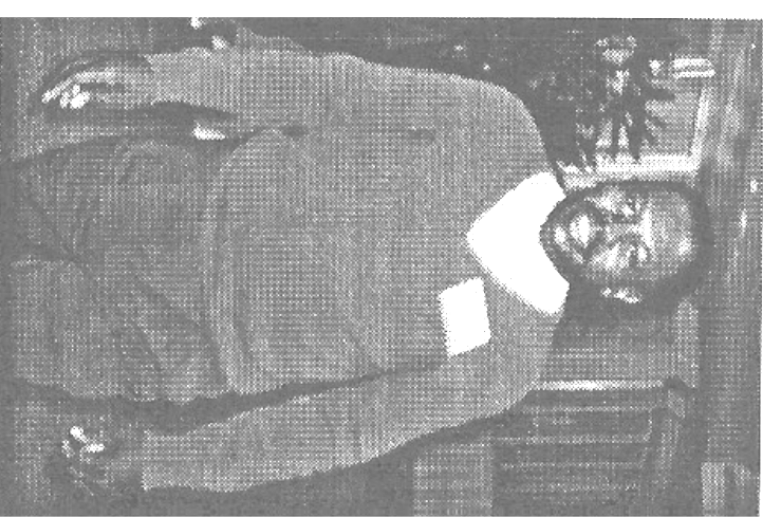
8th President Rodney Jenkins, Office on Aging

First newsletter produced by Barbara Derrick

Management under severe state and local government budget cuts

First Greenville conference

Continued conference management support by State Personnel Division



Year 9 – 1993 Highlights



9th President Deborah Caughman, Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR)

Special interest and focus on Certification program

Deborah spoke at national GFOA conference

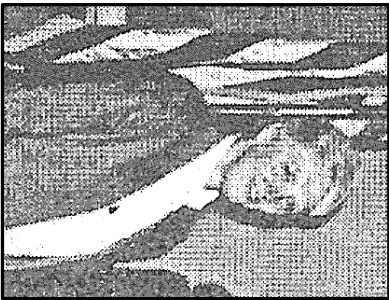
Leadership by Deborah & Lenetta Gray-Brewton at national level on certification – grandfathering of our CGFO courses

New officer orientation begun

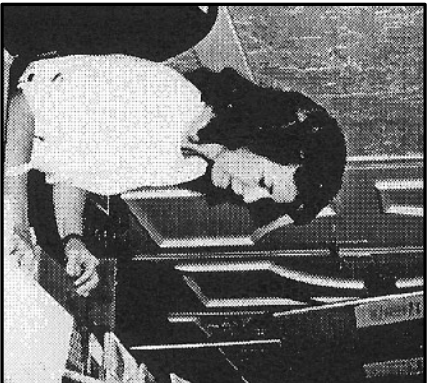
Conference in Charleston at the “Juke Box”



Year 10 – 1994 Highlights

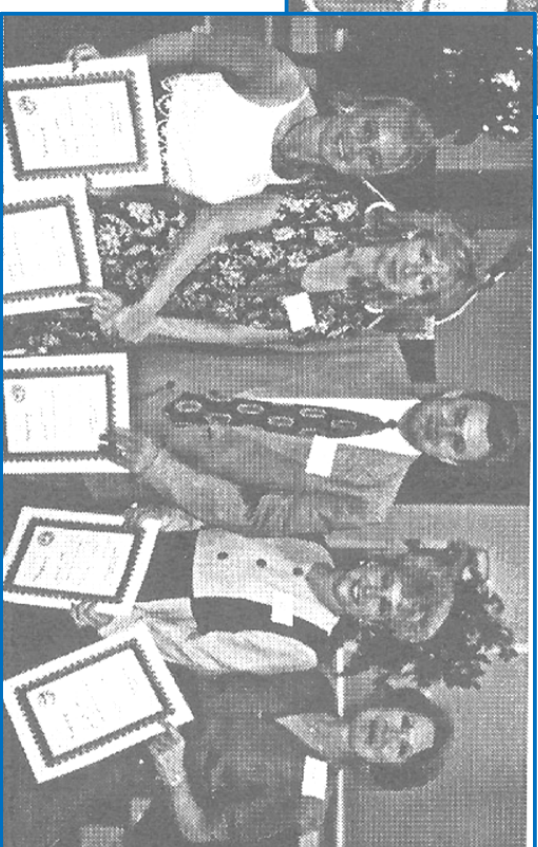


10th President Mary Kelly, DDSN
1st year that more than one
candidate nominated for each office



Largest group of CGFOs at
conference – 16
Major accomplishment – hiring of
director Lynne Lee as Association
secretary/director; served for a
number of years

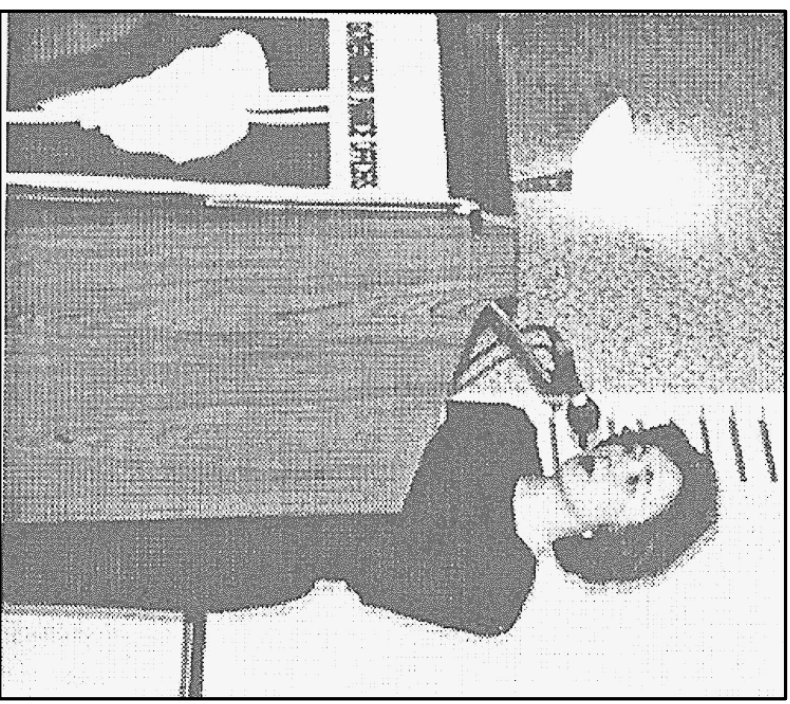
CGFOs Certified in 1994 and 1995



Year 11 – 1995 Highlights



- 11th President Rebecca Coleman, Finance Director, Town of Dillon
- 1st local government president
- “Hat Lady” and great partying at conference
- Development of satellite luncheons



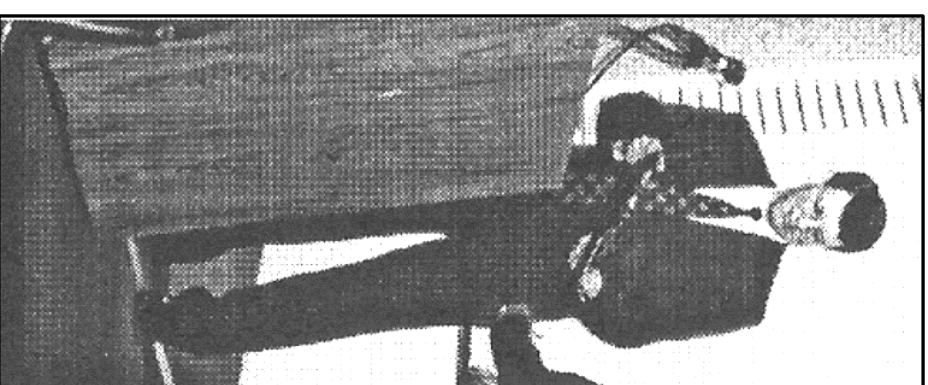
Year 12 – 1996 Highlights

12th President David Vehaun, 2nd Local
government president (now Rock Hill City
Manager)

Fall conference at Hilton Head Crowne
Plaza

Continued emphasis on recruitment and
diversity of membership

Started web site – David and Bill Schmidt,
B&C Board



Year 13 – 1997 Highlights



13th President Ron Rhames (now President of Midlands Tech)

Emphasis on recruitment of higher ed members

Added early bird sessions on Sunday

Web site fully implemented – announcements, membership listing, job announcements

Negotiated 1st multi-year contract for fall conference



Year 14 – 1998 Highlights



14th President Donald Thomas, Controller General's Office

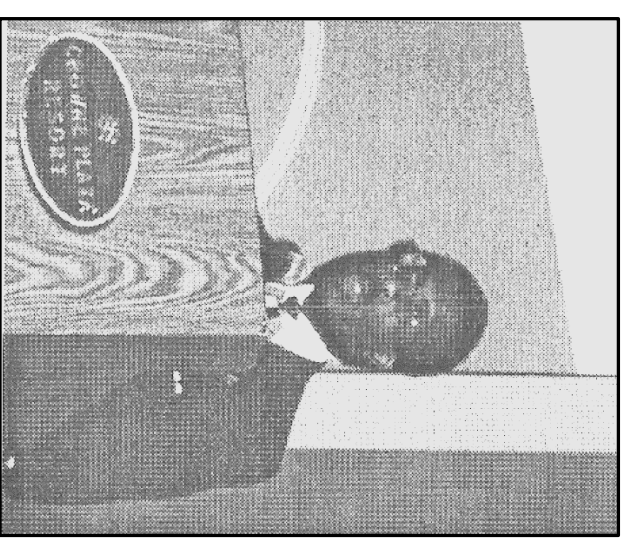
National GFOA president presented at conference

Major accounting panel at conference including GASB Chairman

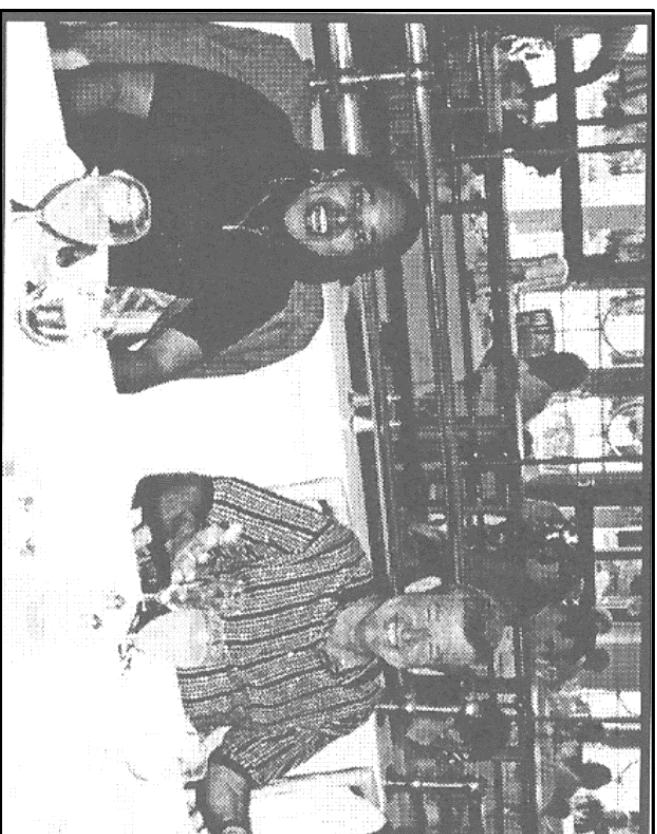
Established liaison with neighboring finance officer associations

Obtained recognition for GFOASC from SC Board of Accountancy as "acceptable continuing professional education provider"

Established scholarship for accounting students @ 2-year institutions



15th and 16th Presidents *The New Millennium!*



1999 – Parker Boulware

2000 – Annie McDaniel (current member, SC House of Representatives)

Where our Presidents Worked 1985 through 2021



State	20
Local	10
Higher Education	<u>6</u>
Total	36



'Get involved'

- **Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina - Early History**

THREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS



Scholarship Programs

Wilma 'Bill' Bellamy Scholarship (1990)

- \$1,500 – Public 4-Year College/University

Katherine 'Kay' Zook Scholarship (1990)

- Assistance To Participate in Government Finance Officers Certification Program

Founding Fathers Scholarship (1998)

- \$1,000 – Public 2-Year College/University

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Certification Program

- Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO)
- 1986 Contracted with the University of South Carolina to Coordinate the Program
- First Certificate Awarded to Rebecca Coleman
- Continuing Education Provided by State Auditor's Office and other SMEs
- Acknowledged as Continuing Education Provider by Board of Accountancy
- Obtained "grandfathering" by national GFOA of GFOASC courses for national certification for SC finance officers

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Conferences and Committees

- Spring and Fall Conferences
- Newsletters
- Committees
- Training and Continuing Education Opportunities
- Exchange Ideas and Build Friendships
- Connections for Job Opportunities
- Fun!



'Enjoy the Conference'

- Government Finance Officers Association of South Carolina - Early History